IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
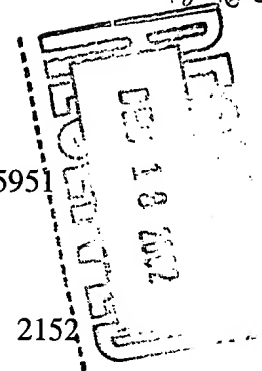
In re application of:

Mark Gray)

Serial No.: 09/835,059)

Filed on: April 13, 2001)

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Confirmation No.: 5951

Examiner: NYA

Group Art Unit No.: 2152

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DETERMINING INTERCONNECTIONS OF NETWORK DEVICES

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Enclosed is a copy of Information Disclosure Citation Form PTO-1449 together with copies of the documents cited on that form. It is respectfully requested that the cited documents be considered and that the enclosed Information Disclosure Citation Form PTO-1449 be initialed by the Examiner to indicate such consideration and a copy thereof returned to applicant(s).

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, the submission of this Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made and is not to be construed as an admission that the information cited in this statement is material to patentability.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted under one of the following (as indicated by an "X" to the left of the appropriate paragraph):

   X   37 C.F.R. §1.97(b).

            37 C.F.R. §1.97(c). If so, then this Information Disclosure Statement includes <u>one</u> of the following:

                      A statement pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)

                                1.97(e)(1) The undersigned hereby states that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart

foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.

_____ 1.97(e)(2) The undersigned hereby states that no item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.

_____ A check for $180.00 for the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

_____ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d). If so, then this Information Disclosure Statement includes the following:

_____ A statement pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)

_____ 1.97(e)(1) The undersigned hereby states that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement; OR

_____ 1.97(e)(2) The undersigned hereby states that no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.

AND

_____ A check for $180.00 for the fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i) for submission of the Information Disclosure Statement.

_____ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(i). Wherein applicants are submitting references before the grant of a patent to be placed in the file but not considered by the Patent office.

(1) Accordingly, copies of the references as listed on the attached Form PTO 1449 are submitted herewith for placement in the file. No certification or fees are deemed necessary.

2

Throughout the pendency of this application, please charge any additional fees, including any required extension of time fees, and credit all overpayments to deposit account 50-1302. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

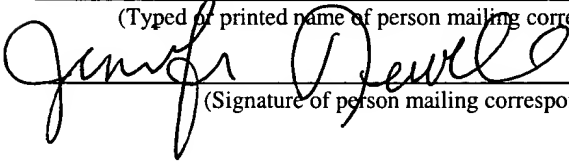HICKMAN PALERMO TRUONG & BECKER LLP

Dated: December 4, 2002

Edward A. Becker
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Telephone: (408) 414-1080
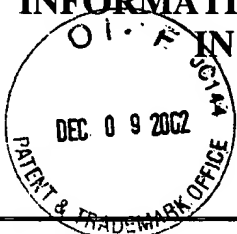Facsimile: (408) 414-1076

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D. C. 20231 on ___December 5, 2002___
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Jennifer Newell
(Typed or printed name of person mailing correspondence)

(Signature of person mailing correspondence)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION
(PTO-1449)

ATTY. DOCKET NO. 55218-0507	SERIAL NO. 09/835,059
APPLICANT: Mark Gray	
FILING DATE: April 13, 2001	**GROUP:** 2152

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam. Initial*	Cite No.[1]	U.S. Patent Document Number	Kind Code[2] (If known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		4,591,967		Mattes et al.	05-27-1986	
		5,163,130		Hullot	11-10-1992	
		5,504,670		Barth et al.	04-02-1996	
		5,574,914		Hancock et al.	11-12-1996	
		5,590,284		Crosetto	12-31-1996	
		5,659,786		George et al.	08-19-1997	
		5,951,683		Yuuki et al.	09-14-1999	
		6,446,141		Nolan et al.	09-03-2002	
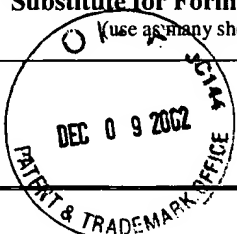
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam. Initial*	Cite No.[1]	Foreign Patent Document Office[3]	Number[4]	Kind Code[5] (If known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T[6]
		EP	0 750 256	A2	Data General Corporation	12-27-1996		
		EP	0 262 750	A2	Thinking Machines Corporation	04-06-1988		
		EP	0 905 621	A1	Lucent Technologies Inc.	03-31-1999		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

[1]Unique citation designation number. [2]See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. [3]Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard S.3). [4]For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. [5]Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. [6]Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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OTHER ART – NO PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS Technology Center 2100

Examiner Initials*	Cite No[1]	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	Translation[2]
		Elliotte Rusty Harold, "XML: Extensible Markup Language," 1998, pp. 1-431.	
		Radek Vingralek, et al., "Snowball: Scalable Storage on Networks of Workstations with Balanced Load," pp. 117-156, Distributed and Parallel Databases, Vol. 6, no. 2, April 1998, XP-002162201.	
		Armando Fox, et al., "Cluster-Based Scalable Network Services," pp. 78-91, Operating Systems Review (SIGOPS), US, ACM Headquarter, New York, Vol. 31, No. 5, December 1, 1997, XP-000771023.	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	

*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication.

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